

REMARKS

A review of the claims indicates that:

A) Claims 20—36 remain in their original form.

B) Claims 1—19 are currently withdrawn.

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests examination of all of the claims.

Election/Restriction

The claims are subjected to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 and are characterized by the Office as containing 2 patentably distinct inventions:

I. Claims 1—19 drawn to an image processor arrangement, (class 358, subclass 1.9);

II. Claims 20—36 drawn to an arrangement for adapting print data to a printing device (class 358, subclass 1.15);

Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, to prosecute claims 20—36 (Group II) in the event that the restriction requirement is maintained. The election is made with traverse because Applicant respectfully requests that the Office reconsider the current number of claim groupings.

M.P.E.P. § 803 states that an application may be properly restricted only if (1) the inventions are independent or distinct as claimed, and (2) there is a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is not required. Thus, even if appropriate reasons exist for requiring restriction, such a requirement should not be made

1 unless there is an undue burden on the Examiner to examine all of the claims in a
2 single application.

3 It would seem that the searches involved for both claim groups would
4 substantially overlap. Because of the apparent overlap in search, a serious burden
5 would not be imposed on the Patent Office to examine all of the claims in a single
6 application, and restriction is improper.

7 For at least the above-identified reasons, the Applicant accordingly requests
8 removal of the Restriction Requirement and examination of all of the claims, i.e.,
9 claims 1—36.

10 **Conclusion**

11 The Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance
12 and respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowability be issued. If the Office's
13 next anticipated action is not the issuance of a Notice of Allowability, the
14 Applicant respectfully requests that the undersigned attorney be contacted for
15 scheduling an interview.

16 Respectfully Submitted,

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